Appl. No. 10/578,128 Preliminary Amdt. Dated July 17, 2006 Reply to Office action of N/A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

10/578,128

Applicant

: Hideko Akashi et al.

Filed

May 2, 2006

Title

"DEFROSTING METHOD"

Confirmation No.

5092

TC/A.U. Examiner

TBD TBD

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Customer No.

52054

Docket No.

40369

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT "B"

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application, prior to examination thereof, in the following manner.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 2 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.

An Appendix including amended drawing figures is attached following page 3 of this paper.